



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
CALIFORNIA DIVISION
980 Ninth Street, Suite 400
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Mr. Jeff Morales, Director
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Branch, Room 3500
For Kris Balaji, Division of Transportation Programming

Dear Mr. Morales:

SUBJECT: SANDAG 2000/01-2002/03 FTIP/FSTIP AMENDMENT NO. 12.1

We have completed our review of Amendment No 12.1 to the San Diego Association of Governments' (SANDAG) 2000/01-2002/03 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) that were submitted by your letter dated July 24, 2002. This amendment proposes modifications to three projects previously included in the 2000/01-2002/03 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) project listings for the state highway program element in San Diego County. The SANDAG Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2002-52 on June 28, 2002, approving these program modifications and reaffirming the conformity of the transportation improvement program with the Regional Air Quality Strategy and the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality.

We find that the subject amendment to the SANDAG Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) was developed through a process in accord with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 134 and Chapter 53 of 49 U.S.C. Based on our review of the proposed program modifications to the 2000/01-2002/03 FSTIP, we are approving FSTIP programming for the projects and project phases describe below which are exempt from the requirements to determine conformity pursuant to 40 CFR 93.126. FHWA is providing this approval in accordance with the procedures outlined in the joint FHWA/FTA Memorandum of Understanding on single mode TIP amendments dated March 8, 1996. Our planning and conformity findings have been coordinated with the regional offices of the Environmental Protection Agency and Federal Transit Administration.

This letter constitutes approval for the inclusion of the following program modifications into California's 2000/01 – 2002/03 FSTIP:

1. The addition of approximately \$6 million in Federal funds and state matching funds for the preliminary engineering (PE) phase of the previously programmed FTIP project

listing for the proposed addition of HOV and SOV lanes on I-5 between San Diego and Oceanside (MPO ID: CAL09).

Based on our review of the Interstate Maintenance Discretionary (IMD) Program project application that was submitted for this project, we understand that the total estimated cost of these improvements on Interstate 5 is \$655 million. Because our review of the SANDAG 2020 Regional Transportation Plan concluded that at least some portion of this project is outside the revenue constrained element of the RTP, we are unable to approve the programming of funds for the project's construction phase as proposed in Amendment No. 12.1. Pending the adoption of a revision to the SANDAG 2020 RTP to include this project in the revenue constrained element of the long-range plan, and the submission of the documentation for a new regional emissions analysis and conformity determination for both the 2000/01-2002/03 SANDAG FTIP and 2020 RTP that considers the air quality impacts of the implementation of this project, we are unable to approve the FSTIP programming of construction phase activities as proposed by this FTIP Amendment. Accordingly, we are approving an increase in the funding identified in the FTIP/FSTIP project listing for the preliminary engineering phase of this project from \$4 million to approximately \$10 million with the condition that non-federal matching funds for the FY 2002 IMD program allocation be segregated in the FTIP/FSTIP project listing. The actual amount of IMD program funds that will be allocated by the FHWA for this project in FY 2002 is \$3,886,428. Interstate Maintenance Discretionary program funds require a non-Federal pro-rata share match of at least 8.43 percent. Any required non-federal matching funds should also be listed in the same year of the FTIP/FSTIP, and for the same project phase (e.g. PE), as the Federal funds that require the matching share.

2. The addition of \$971,000 in Coordinated Border Infrastructure program funds allocated to California in FY 2002 for the construction phase of stage I improvements to SR 905 from Airway Road to the Otay Mesa Port of Entry, and the exchange of previously programmed funding sources between the FTIP/FSTIP project listings for the Stage I improvements described above and the Stages 2 thru 4 improvements on SR 905 from I-805 to Airway Road. These FTIP listing funding modifications are described in more detail in Attachment 1 to SANDAG's Agenda Report No.: 02-06-23.

Sincerely,



For
Gary N. Hamby
Division Administrator